

Message Text

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46

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FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY

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DEPT PASS USDOC

BEIRUT FOR UNDER SECRETARY TABOR

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP OVIP (TABOR, JOHN), TS

SUBJ: TRIP OF UNDER SECRETARY TABOR

REF: STATE 26107, TUNIS 644, TEHRAN 1322

1. FOLLOWING IS PRESENT SCHEDULE FOR UNDER SECRETARY
TABOR IN TUNIS, REFLECTING ADDITIONS AND CHANGES IN
APPOINTS: A) FRIDAY FEBRUARY 14: ARRIVE TUNIS 1750 AZ
864, MET BY ACTING MINISTER OF PLAN MUSTAPHA ZAAOUNI, AMBASSA-
DOR SEELYE, AND REPRESENTATIVES MINISTRY FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND
OTHER MINISTRIES; FOLLOWING BRIEF STATEMENT TO PRESS AT
AIRPORT, PROCEED TO AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE; 1930 COUNTRY
TEAM BRIEFING; 2030, DINNER HOSTED BY ZAAOUNI: B) SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 15: 0900, MEET WITH TIJANI CHELLI, PRESIDENT
DIRECTOR GENERAL, PROMOTION INVESTMENT AGENCY; 1000,
MEET WITH ZAAOUNI AT MINISTRY OF PLAN; 1100, CALL ON
PRIME MINISTER HEDI NOUIRA (TENTATIVE); 1200, CALL ON
FOREIGN MINISTER HABIB CHATTI (TENTATIVE); 1300,
LUNCHEON-DISCUSSION HOSTED BY AMBASSADOR; 1530, TOUR
OF CARTHAGE; 1700, MEET INFORMALLY WITH PRESS FOR
APPROXIMATELY 20 MINUTES AT AIRPORT; 1730, LEAVE TUNIS AIR

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FRANCE 2702.

2. SUGGEST UNDER SECRETARY AND MR. HOSTLER BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS VARIOUS ASPECTS OF 1974 TRADE ACT IN DISCUSSIONS WITH TUNISIAN OFFICIALS, PARTICULARLY MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, STRESSING POTENTIAL ADVANTAGES TO TUNISIA OF U.S. GENERALIZED PREFERENCES SCHEME AND SATISFACTORY OUTCOME OF MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS. BECAUSE OF GROWING IMPORTANCE OF CRUDE OIL AND PHOSPHATE EXPORTS TO TUNISIAN ECONOMY, TUNISIANS SEE IMMEDIATE AND LONG-RUN BENEFITS FROM CURRENT EFFORTS OF SOME DEVELOPING COUNTRIES LED BY ALGERIA TO ASSURE CONTINUED HIGH PRICES OF RAW MATERIALS. IN COMPARISON, BENEFITS FROM OPENING OF U.S. MARKET TO FUTURE TUNISIAN INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS AND MANUFACTURES FROM TUNISIA MAY APPEAR MORE UNCERTAIN. BELIEVE UNDER SECRETARY'S VISIT MAY HELP IN BRINGING ADVANTAGES OF TRADE ACT TO ATTENTION OF HIGH-LEVEL TUNISIANS. EMBASSY HAS BRIEFED WORKING LEVEL OFFICIALS, AND FROM OUR CONVERSATIONS, BELIEVE THAT THEY WILL ASK THEIR PRINCIPALS TO RAISE MATTER WITH TABOR DURING HIS VISIT.

3. BRIEFING MATERIAL FOR TABOR AND HOSTLER, INCLUDING GUEST LIST FOR AMBASSADOR'S LUNCH AND SHORT BIOGRAPHIC STATEMENTS ON OFFICIALS WITH WHOM TABOR WILL MEET FEBRUARY 15, WILL BE PROVIDED UPON ARRIVAL IN TUNIS. EMBASSY HAD SUGGESTED THAT DEPT GIVE BIOGRAPHIC INFO TO TABOR PARTY BEFORE DEPARTURE FROM WASHINGTON. PROPOSED ARRIVAL STATEMENT BEING SENT BY SEPTTEL.
SEELYE

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